

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Serial No.: 09/392,585

Our Ref: Q55716

first establishing a link with a management server through the public communications network, via at least one supervision terminal that is independent of the isolated franking machine, in accordance with a protocol of communication; and

subsequently proceeding with an exchange of data between the supervision terminal and the management server during which a user (1) acquires at the supervision terminal a current invoicing index indicative of the isolated franking machine and (2) receives a code of authorization to frank in order to validate the subsequent frankings of the isolated franking machine, wherein said step of data exchange further comprises:

displaying, at the supervision terminal (1) a list of printing heads associated with the plurality of franking machines, and (2) for each printing head, a last invoicing index validated by the management server.

---